

Meet Your Teacher

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Allison Chunco. I graduated from the University of Florida in 2005 with my Masters degree in Education. This will be my 8th year teaching at Taylor Ranch, and my third year teaching 2nd grade. I have also taught 3rd and Ist. I am also a former graduate of Taylor Ranch! It is really great to be back at this school as a teacher!

I am very dedicated and passionate about teaching, and take your child's education very seriously. I believe that open communication between home and school is very important. In order to get to know you and your child better I am requesting that you please fill out an information card with your contact information and return it as soon as possible. I look forward to getting to know you as well as facilitating your child's learning experiences!

Sincerely, Mrs. Chunco Students in 2nd Grade will gain more skills in reading, writing, speaking, and listening. They continue to learn and practice rules for matching sounds to letters that make up words, and they learn new concepts-such as words that share the same root (e.g., add and additional)—that help them figure out the meaning of new words. Writing will become an exciting way for your child to use newly learned words and phrases to express ideas. As they write and speak, 2nd graders will be more attentive to the formal and informal uses of English and will spell most words correctly in their writing.

What Your Child Will Be Working on in 2nd Grade Reading:

- Paying close attention to details, including illustrations and graphics, in stories and books to answer who, what, where, when, why, and how questions.
- Determining the lesson or moral of stories, fables, and folktales.
- Using text features (e.g., captions, bold print, indexes) to locate key facts or information efficiently.
- Writing an opinion about a book he or she has read, using important details from the materials to support that opinion.
- Writing stories that include a short sequence of events and include a clear beginning, middle, and end.
- Participating in shared research projects (e.g., read books on a single topic to produce a report)
- Taking part in conversations by linking his or her comments to the remarks of others and asking and answering questions to gather additional information or deepen understanding of the topic.
- Retelling key information or ideas from media or books read aloud.
- Producing, expanding, and rearranging sentences (e.g., "The boy watched the movie"; The little boy watched the movie"; The action movie was watched by the little boy")
- Determining the meaning of the new word formed when a known prefix or suffix is added to a known word (happy/<u>un</u>happy; pain/pain<u>ful</u>/pain<u>less</u>).

In 2nd grade, your child will build on last year's work and gain important new skills. One of the most important outcomes for the year is to add and subtract two-digit numbers quickly and accurately (e.g., 77-28). Another important goal in 2nd grade is to understand what the digits mean in a three-digit number such as 463 (namely, 463 is four hundreds, six tens, and three ones). Your child also will build expertise with solving addition and subtraction word problems. Mastering addition and subtraction at the 2nd grade level is important so that your child will not have to review and repeat this material in 3rd grade, when the study of multiplication, division, and fractions will start.

What Your Child Will Be Working on in 2nd Grade Mathematics:

- Solving challenging addition and subtraction word problems with one or two steps (e.g., a "one-step" problem would be: "Lucy has 23 fewer apples than Julie. Julie has 47 apples. How many apples does Lucy have?")
- Quickly and accurately adding with a sum of 20 or less (e.g., 16-9); and knowing all sums of one-digit numbers from memory by the end of the year.
- Understanding what the digits mean in three-digit numbers (place value)
- Using understanding of place value to add and subtract three-digit numbers (e.g., 811-367); adding and subtracting two-digit numbers quickly and accurately (e.g., 77-28)
- Measuring and estimating length in standard units.
- Solving addition and subtraction word problems involving length (e.g., "The pen in 2 cm longer that the pencil. If the pencil is 7 cm long, how long is the pen?")
- Building, drawing, and analyzing 2-D and 3-D shapes to develop foundations for area, volume, and geometry in later grades.

Homework:

Homework is meant to practice skills that we learn in school and to keep you informed of our lessons. The assignments may be reading, spelling, math, social studies, or science. It is not meant to be lengthy, so you child should spend no more than 20 minutes on it. Furthermore, your child should be practicing their oral fluency each night, by reading aloud. All homework is **sent home** in homework folders on **Fridays**, and should be **returned** in the folder the following **Thursday**. That will give one week for homework to be completed. If you have any homework concerns, please contact me.

Contact Information:

During school hours you may contact me at (941) 486-2000. The office staff will send me an e-mail that I will either receive at my planning period or after school. I cannot be pulled out of the classroom or reached during instruction time. Furthermore, you may read me via e-mail: allison_chunco@sarasota.kl2.fl.us

I check this several time a day, and this is one of the most efficient ways to keep in touch with me!

Communication of Grades and Assessments

Throughout the year, I will send home reports, notes, and midterms. These items will provide information about how your child is doing in school and will also provide information on the concepts being taught in class. Please take time to read the items sent home.

For the first grading period, we are testing and evaluating your child. Instead of a midterm, I set up conferences with all families to discuss the information gathered from these assessments and devise a plan of action. In the 4^{th} or 5^{th} week of 2^{nd} – 4^{th} grading period, expect to see a midterm progress report, which must be signed and returned.

Report Cards

<u>Academic Grades</u>	<u>Effort Grades</u>	<u>Work Habits</u>
90-100%= A	E=Excellent	P= Passing
80-89%= B	G= Good	F=Fail
70-79%= C	S= Satisfactory	
60-69%= D	N= Needs Work	
0-59%= F	U= Unsatisfactory	

Conferences-

Throughout the year, we may need to meet again to discuss some important issues about your child. If you would like to set up a conference, you can send a note in, e-mail me, or call me at (941) 486-2000. I will respond as soon as possible to set up a time we an meet at school and discuss your concerns.

Suggested Topics for Conferences-

- ✓ Concerns with grades
- ✓ Behavior or attitude issues
- ✓ Work habits
- ✓ Homework habits
- ✓ Social skills
- ✓ To discuss weaknesses \(\xi\) strengths
- ✓ Competency in basic skills/progress

Please select no more than 3 areas to discuss during a conference. Please let me know if you are unable to keep your conference appointment. Rescheduling is not a problem. Another option is scheduling a phone conference if this is more convenient.



Birthdays-

Birthdays are special and won't be overlooked in the classroom. Cupcakes, cookies, brownies, and fruit are welcome as delicious treats. Please do not send in large cakes that must me cut or refrigerated. We do not have a place to store them, and they take up too much time to prepare and pass out! Due to County Health Regulations, we are no longer allowed to accept homemade treats. Please understand we must follow these county guidelines with no exceptions.



Snacks-

Since lunch is later on in the day, we find students get hungry before it comes. We ask that your child bring in a healthy snack everyday (no junk food, candy, or soda). Please make the snack a finger food item that does not require extra silverware your child doesn't have on them, and can be eaten quickly. We only have about 5 minutes or so for our snack each day. Some healthy suggestions are: carrots, granola bar, string cheese, fruit, crackers, raisins, yogurt, celery.



Lunch-

If your child buys lunch each day, please send in their lunch money in a sealed envelope with their first/last name, and lunch number printed on the front. The teacher will collect it every morning to be sent down to the cafeteria.

When having lunch with your child, please remember the following safety rules:

- You need to obtain a visitor's pass.
- Your child must remain seated with you.
- If you need to leave before the teacher returns, please make sure you return your child to the lunch room.
- You may only take your child to lunch with you.
- If your child enjoys eating with his/her classmates, feel free to each lunch inside the cafeteria at your child's table.

Visitors-

Please remember to sign in a get a visitor's pass at the office anytime you are visiting the campus:

- Volunteering
- Chaperone on a field trip
- Visiting your child for lunch
- o Picking up your child early from school

Thanks for helping us keep our campus safe and secure by following the rules!

The TRS Code of Conduct "Be Respectful, Be Responsible, Be a Star"

Be Respectful

- > Actively listen to the teacher and others.
- Treat others as you would like to be treated.

Be Responsible

- > Stay on task and finish work.
- Contribute to our classroom community.

Be a STAR

Put your best effort into everything you do!

TRS Hallways-

- Keep the noise level low.
- Keep hands and feet to yourself.
- Stay on the right.
- Walk
- Show consideration!

TRS Bus Loop-

- Use only the gate opening closest to your bus
- Be courteous to all.
- Walk in line with your teacher.
- Keep to the right.
- Be a polite passenger!

TRS Playground-

- Use kind language.
- Play cooperatively.
- Stay within boundaries.
- Use equipment safely.
- Show good sportsmanship!





